

Annie Jr. Audition Information

The *Willow Glen Performing Arts Boosters* and *Starting Arts* are proud to present the WGMS Spring Musical, *Annie Jr.* All WGMS students are welcome to audition, and all students (up to the first 90 registrations) who register, audition, maintain a 2.0 GPA and are able to commit to the rehearsal and show schedule and code of conduct will be assigned a role in our production.

Auditions are 3:30 – 5:30pm on January 14, 16, and 17th in the Little Theater. Expect to attend all three dates for the full time. Please register in advance by completing both the online registration form, (see link below), and the Starting Arts audition packet (available January 8th or sooner in the main office). For faster processing on audition day, please complete and submit both the online and paper registration forms before 3 pm on Friday, January 11th. Arrive immediately after the 3 pm bell for Monday check in.

Please understand the time commitment before you audition:

Rehearsals are **Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 3:30 – 5:30**, every week (except February Break week) starting Wednesday, January 23rd through Thursday, March 21st. Cast members are expected to be available for all rehearsal dates, though they may not be called to all rehearsals. Students should check in to rehearsal, when called, by 3:15 pm, and be ready to be on stage by 3:30. Rehearsal end time may vary somewhat day to day, but should not be later than 5:30. Students who sign up for Tech Crew do not need to attend auditions, nor regular rehearsals.

Tech week / dress rehearsals may be scheduled for any or all of **Saturday March 23rd** (morning and afternoon), plus Monday, **Tuesday** and Wednesday of show week, March 25 – 27th, 3:00 – 8:30pm. Show dates are **Thursday, Friday and Saturday, March 28 – 30th**. There will be 2 shows per day, but most students will be in no more than one show per day. All cast and crew are required to be available for **all tech/dress rehearsals and all performances**, though the actual number of shows each student performs in will depend on the number of casts and other casting considerations. Students in one cast should be prepared to act as an emergency stand-in for the same role in another cast.

Parents or other family members of cast and crew members are also expected to make a time commitment to our production. We will have a parent information meeting, sometime before February break, to give you details about the show and to give you information about the types of jobs we need assistance with to put on these performances. This meeting will be scheduled, in consultation with the directing team, for 5:30 – 6:30 on a rehearsal day. We strongly encourage you to attend this meeting. There will be another information meeting closer to show week with information on hair, make-up and costume requirements.

Each production family will be asked to contribute about 10 hours of volunteer time, either before or during show week, to help us prepare, promote, and put on our shows. Some jobs are “lead” positions which involve organizing and/or purchasing (with reimbursement) in advance of the shows. Lead positions are being filled now and if you have a particular talent you are interested in contributing to the show, please contact Chris Shaffer <seeshaffer@gmail.com>. Other jobs are simple sales jobs in the lobby, or back-stage assistance on show days. Some of these can be filled by students, such as older siblings of cast and crew members, and can be counted towards service hours.

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Several of the jobs we need filled by adults involve supervision of children, which requires volunteer screening through the school district. If you have not yet done this screening, or not yet renewed your approval for this year, we encourage you to do this now. It is onerous the first time but easy to renew. You can find information on volunteer screening here <http://go.sjUSD.org/volunteer>.

What to expect at auditions:

There will be no pre-audition information meeting for this production and you are not required to prepare anything (other than your information packet). You will be asked to perform on-stage in groups, with material provided at the auditions. You will be taught sections of the songs and a few steps of the dance routines to perform in your audition group. It will of course be easier for you if you are familiar with the show and the songs. If you are interested in a larger part you will want to be familiar with the lead characters. (Pro-tips: The San Jose Library has several copies of a sing-along version of the 1982 movie on Blu-Ray. You can find some detailed information on the junior version of Annie here: <https://www.mtishows.com/annie-jr.>)

For any audition it is worthwhile to have a good story to tell in a dramatic way. For a musical, if you want a featured dance part you will want to be prepared to show off any dance or gymnastics moves you are able to perform – a formal style or just an impressive leap or tumble. Come dressed to kick your legs high (*i.e.* sensible shoes and something other than a skirt).

The Thursday audition may be for all cast or maybe just a call back for select performers for final casting decisions. We will let you know by the end of Wednesday audition. The final cast list should be available before the first regular rehearsal and will be e-mailed to all performers and parents.

Ready to sign up?

The **online registration** form should be reviewed and completed by the performer in collaboration with a parent or guardian. It is important that both parent and child understand the commitments and the schedule. It is vital that we have correct contact information for the parent/guardian both for regular e-mail communication and in case of emergency. Student contact information is optional but helpful. Access the form at <http://wgpab.org/annie-jr-auditions/> and submit by Friday January 11th for fastest processing on audition day.

You must also submit a **paper registration** form with several signatures of both student and parent/adult acknowledging policies of Starting Arts and WGPAB. This form can be picked up from the main office and should be returned there by 3pm on Friday January 11th.

Finally, make your donation towards the **production package** (T-shirt, photos, tech week food, other production expenses and optional extras) by clicking on the production package link at <http://wgpab.org/annie-jr-auditions/>

Still have questions?

Contact our parent producers at wgmsdrama@gmail.com